

HONORING MR. DANIEL E.
McKEEVER

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the City of Falls Church, Virginia has lost a steady hand, sure-footed manager and good friend this week, with the passing of Daniel E. McKeever.

Dan McKeever joined the Falls Church community as City Manager in 2000, after an accomplished career in both law enforcement and local government. Thoughtful, genial and very well-liked, Dan helped guide Falls Church through a period of rapid transformation. He oversaw development of a number of mixed-use projects that revitalized downtown Falls Church and will increase the City's taxable real estate value by \$336 million.

During his 6 year tenure, Dan McKeever helped implement the City Council's vision for Falls Church as a pedestrian friendly, urban community with small town charm. He worked for more affordable housing, improved the City's building permit process and spent significant time reorganizing the City's public safety system. As City Manager, Dan placed a premium on efficiency, team work, transparency and communication. Shepherding a \$25 million bond referendum for new school construction and protecting the City's AA+ bond rating were among his most noted accomplishments.

In his spare time, Dan was an avid baseball fan, attending as many Washington Nationals games as his busy schedule would allow. He was even a part owner of a minor league baseball team in Pulaski, Virginia, where he served as Chief of Police and town manager in the 1980's.

Never one to wilt in the face of an obstacle, no matter the challenge presented, Dan was intimately involved with the City's management throughout his nine-month battle with cancer. While Dan left us far too soon, his good works, cheerful demeanor and practical advice will long be remembered by the citizens of Falls Church.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I am listed as voting "yea" during rollcall vote number 401 on H.R. 5013, the "Disaster Recovery Personal Protection Act of 2006," when it was before the House of Representatives on Tuesday, July 25, 2006. This is an error. I oppose H.R. 5013 and want it noted that had my intention been properly expressed I would be recorded as having voted "nay."

TRIBUTE TO MARINE CORPORAL
JEREMIAH CUMMINS

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marine Corporal Jeremiah Cummins, of San Ramon, CA, who recently returned from his third tour of duty in Iraq. Corporal Cummins served in the Third Marine Battalion of the 5th Marines with bravery and honor, and I am honored to represent him in Congress.

First sent to Iraq shortly after the initial invasion was winding down, Corporal Cummins spent that tour in a town about 80 or so miles south of Baghdad called Diyauneah. For his next tour he served in Fallujah, which saw some of the fiercest fighting. His third tour saw him stationed a few miles south of Fallujah and patrolling south of that post until the last 6 weeks of the deployment when he was posted in Ramadi, the scene of more fierce fighting.

Corporal Cummins is a remarkable young man, and I rise today to honor and thank him for his service, and the service of all those who put themselves in harm's way for our Nation.

HONORING TODD FOXWORTH,
RUSK CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor Todd Foxworth for being recognized by the Rusk Chamber of Commerce as the 2005 Citizen of the Year.

A native Texan, Warden Foxworth earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Sam Houston State University in Criminology/Corrections. He was recognized by SHSU as a Criminal Justice Scholar in 1988 and a member of the Criminal Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma. He answered his Nation's call to service in the U.S. Army, serving with the 2nd Battalion, 36th Infantry Rangers in the 3rd Armored Division, and was nominated for "Soldier of the Year" 90th Army Command in 1986.

After his service in the armed forces, Warden Foxworth served over 19 years with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. His work has been instrumental in the beautification, emergency relief, construction and maintenance-related demands of the surrounding communities providing offender manpower through the Community Work Squad.

Warden Foxworth is also an exemplary member of the community and has always made an extra effort to help his fellow citizens. He has been personally involved as a member of the Rusk Industrial Foundation and Economic Development Committee. He has worked in fund raising for such charitable organizations as March of Dimes, Toys for Tots, Texas Special Olympics and Cherokee County Crisis Center.

It am proud to honor Warden Todd Foxworth and his valuable contributions to the

Rusk Community and congratulate him for being named Rusk Citizen of the year.

FREEDOM FOR ALEXANDER
SANTOS HERNÁNDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Alexander Santos Hernández, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Santos Hernández is a member of the pro-democracy opposition that seeks to return sovereignty, democracy and human rights to the Cuban people. According to reports, he is a member of the Cuban Liberal Movement, the director of an independent library and the national coordinator for the Eastern Democratic Alliance. Independent librarians in Cuba, such as Mr. Santos Hernández, provide the indispensable service of circulating truth. These vital librarians loan out the classics of anti-totalitarian literature, including authors such as Vaclav Havel and Martin Luther King, Jr.

As an outspoken opponent of tyranny who believes that liberty is an inalienable right, Mr. Santos Hernández has been constantly targeted by the regime's machinery of repression. According to reports, in Nov. 2004, Mr. Santos Hernández spent six months in the totalitarian gulag because he was "convicted" for "disobedience." Despite the regime's constant gangster style repression, Mr. Santos Hernández continued his efforts to bring freedom to Cuba.

According to a report published on June 5, 2006, on Directorio.org, Mr. Santos Hernández was recently "convicted" in another sham trial for the "crime" of "social dangerousness." He was sentenced to 4 years in the abhorrent, subhuman, totalitarian gulag. The U.S. State Department reports that police and prison officials beat, neglect, isolate, and deny medical treatment to detainees and prisoners, including those convicted of political crimes. It is a crime of the highest order that people who work for freedom are imprisoned in these grotesque conditions.

Freedom and democracy are on the march to inevitable victory in Cuba. Courageous leaders like Mr. Santos Hernández defy the dictator's machinery of repression and, despite every threat and obstacle, demand liberty for the people of Cuba. Because of their unwavering commitment, and the works of thousands of other Cuban patriots, Cuba will be free again.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound embarrassment for mankind that the world stands by in silence and acquiescence while political prisoners are systematically tortured because of their belief in freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. We can never forget those who are locked in gulags because of their desire to be free. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Alexander Santos Hernández and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.